

Application of: Mitsuru TAKASHIMA
Serial No.: 10/018,676
Date Filed: December 24, 2002
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This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) A biomedical information collection apparatus, comprising:
 - (a) a plurality of closed compartments, spaced apart and made of an airtight flexible material, each of the closed compartments having a variable internal volume; a spring member placed inside of each of the closed compartments;
 - (b) a plurality of closed air pressure sensors each including one or more of a non-directional microphone ~~and~~ or a pressure sensor, the closed air pressure sensors in communication with respective closed compartments for detecting and converting air pressure in each of the closed compartments into an electric signal; and
 - (c) a plate-shaped member placed on the plurality of closed compartments such that when a living organism is placed on the plate-shaped member placed on the plurality of closed compartments while air remains in the closed compartments and in the closed air pressure sensors, the air pressure in the closed compartments is detected by the respective non-directional microphones and by the closed pressure sensors in communication with the closed compartments to measure biomedical information including breath, heart rate, and body movements including a cough and a snore of the living organism.
3. (Previously Amended) The biomedical information collection apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the non-directional microphones and pressure sensors in communication with the closed compartments are mounted inside of each respective closed compartment.
4. (Previously Amended) The biomedical information collection apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the non-directional microphones and pressure sensors are mounted at an end portion of a hose connected to the closed compartments.

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5. (Currently Amended) A biomedical information collection apparatus, comprising:

- (a) a plurality of closed compartments, spaced apart and made of an airtight flexible material, each of the closed compartments having a variable internal volume; a spring member placed inside of each of the closed compartments;
- (b) a plurality of closed air pressure sensors each including one or more of a non-directional microphone ~~and~~ or a pressure sensor, the closed air pressure sensors in communication with respective closed compartments for detecting and converting air pressure in each of the closed compartments into an electric signal; and
- (c) a plate-shaped member placed on the plurality of closed compartments, such that when a living organism is placed on the plate-shaped member placed on the plurality of closed compartments while air remains in the closed compartments and in the closed air pressure sensors, the air pressure in the closed compartments is detected by the respective non-directional microphones and by the pressure sensors to measure biomedical information including breath, heart rate, and body movements including a cough and a snore of the living organism;

wherein a microscopic pinhole is provided in each of the closed compartments to establish an air leak countermeasure to minimize an influence upon the non-directional microphones and pressure sensors.

Claims 6-13 (Canceled).

14. (Previously Amended) The biomedical information collection apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the non-directional microphones and pressure sensors are mounted inside of each respective closed compartment.

15. (Previously Amended) The biomedical information collection apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the non-directional microphones and pressure sensors are mounted at an end portion of a hose connected to the closed compartments.